

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY; JUNE 20, 2005; 6:00 P. M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, B. T. DeLOACH BUILDING, HAMPTON, SC**

Hampton County Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, June 20, 2005, 6:00 p. m., Council Chambers, B. T. DeLoach Building, Hampton, South Carolina. Council Member(s) present: Lisa Ball; Virgin Johnson, Sr.; Margaret S. Parker, Chairman and Willard E. Wilson, Vice Chair. Council member(s) absent: Lee S. Bowers. Staff present: Sabrena Posey Graham, Administrator; Aline Newton, Clerk to Council and A. G. Solomons, Jr., County Attorney. Media present: Mr. Wayne Knuckles, The Hampton County Guardian. The meeting was advertised as prescribed by law.

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Parker called the meeting to order.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**INVOCATION:**

Pastor Kevin Byrd, Chaplain, Hampton County, gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Parker.

**PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

There were no public hearing(s).

**PUBLIC COMMENT(S)**

There were no public comment(s).

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**ADOPTION OF JUNE 20, 2005 COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA:**

Chairman Parker asked if there were any changes to the agenda. **Moved** by Council Member Ball, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to adopt the agenda with the following revisions: Addition to the Administrator's Report regarding the Addition of Item #13.1.4 - Request for Equipment Purchase for the Fire Department and two items for executive session. The agenda listed a contractual matter for Option to Purchase Property and would like to add two Contractual Matters for Office space for Economic Development and the Sheriff's Department. Motion carried.

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY; JUNE 20, 2005; 6:00 P. M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, B. T. DeLOACH BUILDING, HAMPTON, SC**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**JUNE 6, 2005 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:**

Chairman Parker wanted an insertion in the minutes to clarify the project being recommended by the Courthouse and Other Facilities Advisory Committee. **Moved** by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to table the minutes to allow the Clerk to go back and listen to the tape. Motion carried.

**PRESENTATIONS**

There were no presentation(s).

**APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

There were no appointment(s).

**RESOLUTION(S)**

There were no resolution(s).

**ORDINANCES**

**THIRD (3<sup>rd</sup>) AND FINAL READING TO ORDINANCE #2004-004 - ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AND DELIVERY OF A FEE IN LIEU OF TAX AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN HAMPTON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND NEVAMAR COMPANY, LLC**

Chairman Parker stated that this matter was deferred.

**BIDS**

**BIDS FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES BUILDING:**

Chairman Parker stated next was the bid on the Emergency Services Building in which Council had the information in their packet. **Moved** by Council Member Ball to accept the Administrator's recommendation to take the lowest qualified bid which is from Brunson Construction. Council Member Ball stated that her motion was based on the fact that there are some irregularity in the electrical licensing and, she stated that she also had some serious concerns about the surety bonds from the low bidder. Council Member Johnson asked if it were open for discussion. Chairman Parker stated that this was a motion, and she needed a second. Chairman Parker stated that she

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY; JUNE 20, 2005; 6:00 P. M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, B. T. DeLOACH BUILDING, HAMPTON, SC**

**seconded the motion.** Chairman Parker stated that now it was open for discussion. Chairman Parker asked if there was any discussion. Council Member Johnson wanted to know if everything had been discussed thoroughly about this thing (bid) before Council adopted it - before we agree. Council Member Johnson stated that they had several contractors, and he was not sure he understood what was going on. Chairman Parker asked Council Member Ball if she wanted to answer. Council Member Ball stated that she was satisfied with all that was in the packet about each one of the bids and what was irregular about the other bids. Council Member Johnson stated that he saw the bids. Chairman Parker asked if Council Member Johnson had a question for Administrator Graham. Council Member Johnson stated that his question was "Did you check the law thoroughly to see what was going on?" Council Member Johnson stated that his question was to see what was exactly done? Council Member Johnson stated that he saw something that was said or he heard what was said and looking at the booklet is a little different from what Council did. Chairman Parker stated that this is a process that Administrator Posey-Graham. Chairman Parker told Council Member Johnson that if he had some specific questions, and they are not addressed in here, because she knew at the last meeting that he wanted to ask some questions, then this was the time to do it. Unless it is qualified. Council Member Johnson stated that he did not understand the part about what's qualified and what's not qualified. How do you reach a conclusion based on the bid. He stated that this was the exact question he wanted to ask. Chairman Parker asked Council Member Johnson if the two items were in here. Council Member Johnson stated that it was not in there. He stated that it was the book from the State department on construction and what not. Council Member Ball stated that this was under the Code of Laws as to what has to be done for companies to be able to be issued a bond. She stated to be able to be issued a Surety Bond from her research and what she looked up, you have to be licensed by the State. You have to be able to do that. She stated that you have to be able to put up a certain amount of money to be able to cover that bond. Council Member Johnson asked if the insurance won't cover it? Council Member Ball stated that you have to have the money to back the bond, and this is a huge project so you want to make sure that the company that you have and who, the person that you have the bond issued can back the bond. Council Member Johnson stated that before Council goes into any further discussion, an executive meeting is needed to go over the plan, because it is going to take a little longer in here. Council Member Ball stated that Council has already discussed that. Chairman Parker stated that Council Member Johnson wanted more further discussion, and he felt an executive session was needed. County Attorney Solomons stated that obviously questions dealing with legal issues, and Council has a right to do that. Attorney Solomons stated that the problem at this point is that you have a motion and a second on the table. He stated that it depended on what Council wanted to do about it. County Attorney stated that he would prefer to give any legal opinions to legal issues to you guys in executive session. Chairman Parker stated that she wanted to know how to do this right now in the middle of a motion and a second. Chairman Parker stated that a member asked for this, and she had no problem discussing this. Council Member Johnson asked if a Chairman can carry a motion and second it? He stated that he did not think that's ever been done. Chairman Parker stated that we talked about that...let's finish this....Chairman Parker stated that she can. Chairman Parker stated she guess this is the time to say that she can. She stated that Council has discussed this before and this (information read) is from the right out of Robert's Rules of Order from the Association. Chairman Parker stated that she asked County Attorney Solomons to research that for her. She stated that the Association sent down , "Can the Chairman vote?" Chairman Parker read, "If a member, a Chairman. Council Member Johnson interjected "not vote - not vote". Council Member Ball stated

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY; JUNE 20, 2005; 6:00 P. M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, B. T. DeLOACH BUILDING, HAMPTON, SC**

to “make a motion.” Council Member Johnson stated if a Chairman can second and still carry the motion. Council Member Johnson asked if the Chairman can carry a motion and second it? Council Member Johnson stated that this was the question. Chairman Parker repeated Council Member Johnson’s question regarding her being able to make a motion. Council Member Johnson stated that the Chairman could not make a motion - He stated that she, as Chair, could not offer a motion . Chairman Parker stated that the Chairman has the right to vote, and she read “Can the Chairman make a motion?” “Yes, the chairman has the same right as any other member in the small boards of not more than about a dozen members present, the chairman usually participates the same as the other members. In larger assemblies, um...has the duty to remain impartial to boards and council.” Chairman Parker stated that yes, she can. She stated that it goes on to say. Chairman Parker stated that she can participate. She stated that she researched that fact both from the Association and the Attorney. Chairman Parker stated that she could make a motion. Council Member Ball stated that if you wanted to go into other discussion about the particulars about not accepting the low bid, she stated that she would just tell you that it did not take a whole lot of investigation on the internet, she stated that when you looked at the surety bond thing, it had cease and desists orders issued in numerous states. Council Member Ball she stated that it did not have our state, but it did have Montana, Nevada, Texas, Georgia and Mississippi . Council Member Ball stated that she had serious reservations about allowing a company to take - to give them the bid when their surety isn’t as the handout. Council Member Ball stated that she was not going to do it. Council Member Johnson stated that the other states did but not South Carolina. Council Member Ball stated that they are also not licensed in South Carolina which is a requirement. Chairman Parker asked if he had some specifics for discussion in executive session? Council Member Johnson stated that he wanted to ask something, but he did not agree with it at this time. Council Member Ball stated that this was not a reason for executive session. Chairman Parker asked Council Member Ball if she wanted to stick with her motion, and she stated that she did. Chairman Parker asked if there was any other discussion? Chairman Parker called the vote. Council Members Ball and Parker voted “Yea”. Council Member Johnson voted “Nay”. Council Member Wilson abstained.

**COUNCIL’S BRIEFING(S)**

There was no council briefing(s).

**REPORTS TO COUNCIL**

**ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:**

**REQUEST FROM THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOR A SPONSORSHIP OF THE HAMPTON COUNTY HISTORICAL PROFILE:**

Administrator Posey-Graham stated that the first item that she had was a follow up item that comes to Council from the Historical Society that was presented to Council at a previous meeting. She stated that it was a request from the Project Chair, Linda Kelly, regarding a sponsorship from Hampton County of \$2500 for a leadership profile page in the Pictorial History Book that they are working on. She stated that they are attempting to raise funds from the book sales and sponsorships such as those funds could be used for the operation and improvement of the county museum. Administrator Posey-Graham stated that if Council recalled, a budget request was submitted by the

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY; JUNE 20, 2005; 6:00 P. M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, B. T. DeLOACH BUILDING, HAMPTON, SC**

Historical Society for improvements to that facility as well as for staff, and Council, at that time, did not honor that request. She stated that the request to you is the project that was presented to Council sometime back and Council supported and endorsed the project and adopted a resolution in support of that project. She stated that basically the Historical Society is saying thank you for the resolution, and we would like to have your funding to go along with that resolution. Administrator Posey-Graham stated that the request is for \$2,500 (two thousand, five hundred dollars). She stated that she asked the Finance Director to check and the county does have funds available in the Contingency Fund to cover this cost if Council is interested in approving the request to provide those funds out of current year's budget. Administrator Posey-Graham stated that Mrs. Kelly is here tonight if Council had any specific questions for her. Administrator Posey-Graham stated that it is the recommendation of the Administrator to approve this funding request for the Pictorial History Project sponsorship in the amount of \$2,500 (two thousand, five hundred dollars) which supports Council's previous resolution for this project. Administrator Posey-Graham stated that she would be happy to answer any questions. Chairman Parker asked for motion. Council Member Ball stated that she could not imagine having a project like that and Hampton County not endorse it and support it. She stated that Council would be missing that. **Moved** by Council Member Ball, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to support and endorse the Pictorial History Project. Chairman Parker stated that she wished that Council could have given when the Historical Society made their request. She stated that hopefully this amount will be the County's part to raise a lot of money for the museum and the Historical Society. Chairman Parker stated that Council appreciated all the volunteer work of the Historical Society that she's been reading about in the paper. Motion carried unanimously.

**REQUEST FROM S & S DISPOSAL:**

Administrator Posey-Graham stated that the next request is from S & S Disposal. She stated that the Vice President and CEO of S & S Disposal was present, Mr. J. C. Sineath. Administrator Posey-Graham stated that his request was for curbside garbage collection to the unincorporated areas of Hampton County. She stated that S & S Disposal would make this available to the residents of the unincorporated areas. She stated that this would be at a flat rate of \$20 (twenty dollars) per month. She stated that the customers would be contacted directly by S & S Disposal at their own option to choose to participate to accept the service or not. She stated that the residents will sign individual contracts for service. She stated that the County will not be involved in marketing this program nor in the operation of the service. She stated that this will be strictly between S & S Disposal and the resident. She stated that S & S presently has contracts with the Town of Estill, Gifford and Brunson. She stated that they have bid on the services for the Town of Hampton. She stated that to her knowledge, the bid has not been awarded at this point. S & S Disposal along with the request to offer the service to residents are also asking the county to waive the tipping fee on all waste collected to this program. This fee is the fee that must be paid at the transfer stations for disposal of waste. She stated that the county presently pays this fee for all county waste as well as municipal waste. Administrator Posey-Graham stated that the request is that the county continue to pay that tipping fee. She stated that the financial impact to the county is zero. She stated that there is no cost to the county for S & S to provide this service. She stated that it is actually waste that would not go to our recycling centers and the recommendation that she is making is that if the County allow the service to be provided and that the county simply make it clear that this is optional to the citizens

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY; JUNE 20, 2005; 6:00 P. M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, B. T. DeLOACH BUILDING, HAMPTON, SC**

and this is not a requirement. She stated that recycling centers will still be available, and the citizens could use those centers if they so choose. She stated that Mr. Sineath was present if Council had any questions for him. Council Member Johnson asked if that was going to eliminate the millage that is being collected in tax. Administrator Posey-Graham stated that it would not. Council Member Johnson stated that this would be \$20 (twenty dollars) per month to what they are already paying. Administrator Posey-Graham stated that this was correct if a citizen chose to accept the services. She stated that this was the citizen's option to have curbside garbage collection at their home; this would be your option. She stated that if someone chose to accept it, then they would pay the \$20 (twenty dollar) flat rate per month. Council Member Johnson asked how many times would there be a pick up each month? Mr. Sineath stated that it would be once per week. Chairman Parker asked Mr. Sineath to step to the podium. Council Member Ball stated that if you were out of town, then you would have the choice of having your garbage picked up at your curb as opposed to carrying it yourself for \$20 (twenty dollars). Mr. Sineath stated that they would provide a 96 (ninety-six gallon) cart and would pick up once per week. Chairman Parker asked what a 96 gallon cart would be compared to in regards to what we have around here. She stated that she lived in town, and she has the big gray thing that she rolls out. She wanted to know how big was that one? Mr. Sineath stated that this was a ninety gallon. Chairman Parker stated that her garbage was picked up once per week. Mr. Sineath stated that incorporated areas and unincorporated areas is what he's hoping to service. He stated that he hopes to get the whole county. Chairman Parker stated that she knows that people pay their taxes, but she knows that if she can have a trash can right outside like she does in the town and just put it in there once per week and someone gets it, then she would gladly pay \$20 (twenty dollars) per month. Chairman Parker asked if it was a monthly thing or a yearly thing. She wanted to know how he was going to do this. Mr. Sineath stated that he was going to do it quarterly. Chairman Parker asked if they would pay ahead. Mr. Sineath stated that they would pay ahead. Chairman Parker asked Mr. Sineath if he would be the one contacting the people about what day it is to collect the garbage, etc. She stated that the contract would be between the citizen and S & S. Chairman Parker wanted to know what role the county would play in this. She asked after this is approved, what part would the county play? Mr. Sineath stated that the only thing that the county would do is pay the tipping fee when he gets to the landfill. She asked if he would explain. Administrator Posey-Graham stated that this is what they are currently doing. He stated that the county would pay for disposal ..or handling the waste at the landfill. Council Member Wilson stated that this is what Colleton County is doing. Mr. Sineath stated that Colleton, Bamberg and Allendale are doing this. Chairman Parker asked Mr. Sineath how long has he been doing this. He stated that he has been in it for about five (5) years for himself and about twelve (12) years altogether. Chairman Parker wanted to know how long has he been doing it in Colleton? Mr. Sineath stated that he has been doing it in Colleton about five (5) years. She wanted to know how that started out. Mr. Sineath stated with one trash can at a time. She asked how is it now; how big? Mr. Sineath stated that he serves about 80% of Colleton County. He stated that Colleton is his biggest county. Chairman Parker wanted to know if he has received any complaints from the county level, like the Administrator, etc.? Mr. Sineath stated that he has received none what so ever. He stated that if Council would like, they could call Mr. Richard Starks in Colleton County and talk to him and ask him; he's had no problems. Chairman Parker asked the Administrator if she had chance to mention anything or check it out. Chairman Parker stated that this was the Administrator's recommendation so okay. **Moved** by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Ball, to allow or authorize S & S Disposal to collect garbage in the unincorporated areas in Hampton County.

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY; JUNE 20, 2005; 6:00 P. M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, B. T. DeLOACH BUILDING, HAMPTON, SC**

Council Member Johnson stated that he had some reservations about that with all the dogs in Hampton County unless you nail those things down. He stated that the dogs will turn them over. He stated that it did not matter how you clean up, when you talk about nuisance. He stated that you will have some nuisance back in the county with the amount of dogs running loose. Chairman Parker asked if that was a problem? Chairman Parker stated that it was the same as hers which is that big thing out on the rollers. Council Member Johnson stated that he knew what it was. She stated they never turn it over. Mr. Sineath stated that this was not a problem. Council Member Johnson asked Mr. Sineath if his worker picked up off the ground as well as in the trash can.

Mr. Sineath stated that they picked up what was in the roller cart. Chairman Parker stated that they have machines that pick up the cans. Mr. Sineath stated that he has two men on the back of a truck. Chairman Parker wanted to know if there were other questions? Chairman Parker stated that she had a motion and a second. Motion carried with Council Member Johnson voting "Nay". Chairman Parker stated that once Mr. Sineath got things going in about six months or so; she wanted him to give Mrs. Graham a report; she stated that she would like to know how things are going. Mr. Sineath stated that he will keep her informed.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT REGARDING THE MILEY STATION:**

Administrator Posey-Graham stated that the third item is a fire department report regarding the Miley station. She stated that this was a request from Council. She stated that Council had in their packets an agenda cover that gave the details on that as well as a map that the fire chief worked very hard to prepare to color code to give all the information that Council requested. She stated that if you have that, you may want to pull that out now. She stated that the Fire Chief, Mr. Rushing, was here, and she was going to ask him to present this tonight. Mr. Rushing came before council and stated that he would present this to council by council. Mr. Rushing stated that the Miley Area is one of the largest areas in the county that is still at a Class 10 rating. He stated that this is on a scale of one to ten, with ten being the highest. He stated that this was due to the fact that there is not a fire station in that area. He stated that they will remain as a ten until they can establish a fire station in that area. He stated that what it means to those folk in that area is that classification. He stated that this was taken from of our local insurance agencies who were kind enough to give him cost on a \$100,000 house. He stated that class ten (10) on a \$100,000 house from one of the agencies would cost \$1,503 (one thousand, five hundred three dollars) per year for an insurance premium. He stated that this particular insurance company did not go down to a class seven (7) which would reduce down to \$597 (five hundred ninety-seven dollars). He stated that this would be a nine hundred six dollars (\$906) savings on that particular house. Chairman Parker asked if this was from a ten. Mr. Rushing stated that this would be from a ten to a seven. Mr. Rushing stated that he thought Council had a question as to what determines a six. He stated that five miles from a fire station-road miles. He stated that this was not aerial miles. He stated that five miles driving from a fire station to that location. He stated that it could be a county road, it could be a private road, but it has to be a maintained road which could used in all conditions. He stated that it has to be five road miles. He stated that in years past, many years ago, they took a compass and made a circle; anything in that five mile radius was covered. He stated that it does not work that way anymore. He stated that it is five road miles. He stated that this is putting Miley out of that five mile range. Hampton Fire

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY; JUNE 20, 2005; 6:00 P. M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, B. T. DeLOACH BUILDING, HAMPTON, SC**

Station goes to Crocketville on Highway 601. He stated that it goes a little past Crocketville. Administrator Posey-Graham asked Mr. Rushing before he went through the map if he would go to the points to consider explaining the six rating and the ten rating. Mr. Rushing stated that on the ten which is the highest, a lot of insurance companies will not insure your house. He stated that they would plain just not. He stated that they are looking; they don't want a loss. He stated that they want money in their pocket, so they won't. Mr. Rushing stated that Class 9 is the County's biggest savings. He stated that basically you have a fire station and a truck. He stated that over the years, the county has been able to..the first survey with ISO which is the company that basically surveys the county fire program and rates the program as the quality of fire protection that the program can provide. He stated that the county went to a Class . He stated that on the last one, the County went from a Class 7 to a Class 6 which again lowers the rate. Mr. Rushing stated that the lower the rates are the better we are to a point. He stated that there is a point in which you look at the cost in going lower is not worth the savings in insurance our citizens will get. He stated that you would be spending more than they are saving. Mr. Rushing clarified that the lower you go; there is less of a difference in the insurance premium that the citizens are going to get. He stated that from a Class 6 to a Class 4 would not be near that savings that you would get between a Class 9 and a 7or a 6. So, the lower you go, there is less in the difference in the premiums that you will have. He stated that at some point, you have to look at what it is going to cost us to go down that low. Colleton County just went down to a Class 4 last week county wide. He stated that they are just like Hampton County; countywide means within five (5) miles of a fire station. He stated that in the last few years they have spent several million dollars to build stations, buy fire trucks so forth to get to a Class 4. Before that, Hampton County's class was higher or better than theirs. He stated that with the new survey, they are down to a 4 countywide. He stated just like Hampton County is at a 6 now. Mr. Rushing stated that you have to look at what you want to spend to provide that protection. Administrator Posey-Graham stated that Mr. Rushing referenced that Hampton County is at a 6 countywide with a few exceptions right. Mr. Rushing stated that this was correct. He stated that the exceptions are the Miley area, the Garnett area in which they were hoping that they would be able to tag on to Jasper County, because they have a station in Robertsville which is three miles from Garnett. He stated right now that is not working because that particular area has a building but is not going to help us any. He stated that there are two areas out on Highway 278 towards Jasper County, but there are just a few houses. He stated that at this point, he cannot justify building a station there for just those premiums; there's just not enough. He stated that there is an area on the backside of the county, but that is just mostly timber, so there is nothing there that you really have to protect. Mr. Rushing stated that basically the County is pretty well covered. He stated that this is why it is so important where you establish the fire station. He stated that because from that point to the front door of that fire station - five (5) miles is where your rating is going to count. Mr. Rushing asked if there were any other questions about the ratings. Chairman Parker stated that just looking at the map, the Hampton Fire Station and the distance to Miley. She stated that she was looking at down in Cummings with the station and how far they are on the Salkehatchie Road. Mr. Rushing stated that he did not have the same map that she did, but he knew where she was talking about. Chairman Parker stated that this might be an area that the County will look at as well. Mr. Rushing stated that it will be, but at this time, he can't justify building a fire station in the area with the number of homes that are there. Mr. Rushing stated that he did not think that you would find a county that is 100%. Chairman Parker stated that she understood. She stated that she probably would find it helpful if he could show those areas. Mr. Rushing stated that he had some of them, but he was kind of in a rush



**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY; JUNE 20, 2005; 6:00 P. M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, B. T. DeLOACH BUILDING, HAMPTON, SC**

with doing that because those maps, he had to hand do. He stated that the County does not have any way of copying that. He stated that the Administrator stated that he needed to get it done. He stated that he will try to get some extra maps to get the fire districts in there. Mr. Rushing stated that there are areas there that you are going to have a Class 10 rating. Chairman Parker asked Mr. Rushing if he could show those areas to Council. She stated not now, just later. Mr. Rushing stated that he could. Mr. Rushing stated that the way that he got the figures on Miley area; he got out there and rode the roads. He stated that he measured the mileage and counted the houses, etc. He stated that in the packet, there is a sheet there with 138 (one hundred thirty-eight homes). Mr. Rushing stated that this was back in 2003. He stated that five (5) churches and 11 (eleven) other buildings to include barns, equipment sheds, etc. He stated that there were ten (10) businesses, such as taxidermy, etc. Mr. Rushing stated that these things would be affected by a station in the Miley area. Mr. Rushing stated that it is important where a station is established; he stated that if you move it this way, then you would be taking from this side. He stated that if you move the other way, then you would be taking from that side. He stated that the station really needed to be established at the Miley \crossroads. He stated that he was sure Council was familiar with Miley crossroads; he stated Highway 601 and Salkehatchie Road. He stated that this was the point in which the fire station could cover the most citizens and residents that you have there. He stated that it also touches the district of Brunson and by doing this, it would not be established as a new fire station; it would be considered a sub-station of Brunson. He stated that this way the County can get the Miley Station down to the Class 6 rating, because you don't have the people out there to be firemen. He stated that they are having trouble everywhere, not just establishing a new station. He stated by putting it and touching their district within the five (5) miles, it can be established as a sub station which when ISO comes in and checks the station and approves it; it would not go to a class 9 like some of the old ones did. It would actually go to a class 6, because that is the present rating for Brunson. Council Member Wilson thanked Mr. Rushing. Council Member Wilson stated that when you look at the savings with 138 homes at \$900 each. Mr. Rushing interjected that all the homes, trailers, etc., you are not going to have that kind of savings. Mr. Rushing stated that you have to look at what you've got and so forth. He stated that you will get some savings. Mr. Rushing stated that our problem is that a lot of people don't have insurance on their homes. He stated that they had a fire last Thursday night, and the couple had no insurance. He stated that at least by doing this, they can afford to get some insurance if they don't have it now. Mr. Rushing stated that he got a cost on the building dealing with some of the people that he's dealt with before that built the previous stations provided the information. He stated that the quote was \$47,102 (forty-seven thousand, one hundred two dollars) for a station that would be a two (2) bay with enough room in there for a restroom and an office and a septic tank and a well. He stated that he had prices on a used pumper, a used tanker and equipment which would run around \$100,000 (one hundred thousand dollars). Mr. Rushing stated that \$150,000 (one hundred fifty thousand dollars) could do this project. Mr. Rushing stated that with the used equipment, which was one of the things that he tried to look at on a regular basis is to keep from coming up here..Mr. Rushing reminded Council that when they started this that they bought nine (9) new trucks for over one million dollars (\$1,000,000). He stated that the County does not want to go into a situation where they would have to go back to purchase four (4) or five (5) trucks again. He stated that these would be good and descent looking trucks for this time. Mr. Rushing stated that this would be the cost, for the building, he stated that he has not talked to the folks that owned the property out there; he stated that it has been over two years ago, at that time they were very favorable in donating the land to the County the same as have been done with the

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY; JUNE 20, 2005; 6:00 P. M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, B. T. DeLOACH BUILDING, HAMPTON, SC**

other areas, as long as it is used as a fire station, they would donate the land, and at any time that the County did not use the land, or it was not used as a fire station, the land and the upgrades would go back to the estate. He stated that he spoke to some people up in Greenville, which took a while to find them, but they seem like very nice people. He stated that he has not spoken to them lately, and they have not given a definite answer on whether they would or wouldn't, because he could not give them a definite on whether the County wanted to or not. He stated that they sounded like they would be willing to do that. Mr. Rushing stated that it would probably take about two (2) acres of land in order to establish a well and a septic tank. He stated that this is all that has to be done now. He stated that the land owners were pleasant and thought the idea would be a benefit to them in the long run, because a lot of the land out there belongs to this estate. Chairman Parker asked Council if there were any questions on this since Council Member Johnson was the one that requested a report on this. Council Member Johnson stated that the residents there are taxpayers just like the rest of the county. He stated that he felt that what is good for the goose is good for the gander, no discrimination. He stated that he has to make a motion, then he would make a motion to cease some of these other buildings coming up and put that station in Miley. Council Member Johnson stated if you have never had a burnout, you say that you know how people feel; Council Member Johnson stated that a person does not know how the person feels, you assume how you feel. If you lose everything in your house, it is almost like death and you can't do anything about it. Council Member Johnson stated that he did not have any insurance and his house burned in 1976. He stated that his daughter's burned in 1984. It is a headache. Instead of buying other things, you buy insurance. He stated that you can't get insurance, because it is so high to pay. Chairman Parker asked Council Member Wilson if he had something to say. Council Member Wilson stated that he had to agree with Council Member Johnson; he stated that if you have never gone through a burnout, then you don't know what it is. He stated that it is a sad feeling to come home and have nothing. He stated that he's been there like Council Member Johnson. Council Member Wilson stated that just say your average a savings of \$200, and you have a 138 people. He stated that \$150,000 is nowhere near the savings you will get. He stated that if this is a continuous thing, look at what the savings is if they do have a catastrophe. He stated that the citizen has a way to recover at least some of it. Mr. Rushing stated that one of the citizens that really got this thing on the ball was when their insurance company had quoted them with the same rating as the Town of Hampton had for many years. The insurance company came in and checked, and they went from a class 5 to a class 10. Mr. Rushing stated that when it goes down a bit, he has not heard much, but when it goes up to the highest that you can pay, he has heard from those citizens. He stated that for a long time he felt like the County could not provide protection, because he could not see the manpower going out there, but since he has talked with ISO, he stated that as long as the district lines are touching, and by doing that they would automatically, once ISO came in and approved everything and surveyed everything, they would take on that rating of the Brunson station which would be a class 6. Chairman Parker stated that the last time, Mr. Rushing stated that they had to have the bodies at the station, manpower. She stated that Miley was not able to come up with that. Mr. Rushing stated that this was true. Chairman Parker stated that they were not the age and training, etc. Chairman Parker asked Mr. Rushing if this was still an issue? Mr. Rushing stated that it was not, because a sub station would take on the fire fighters that are already in Brunson. He stated that they would be touching district lines. He stated that in other words, Estill, for example, could not be a sub station of Miley. He stated that Miley would have to be a sub station of the station that was touching the boundaries. Mr. Rushing told Chairman Parker when they did that he was against the project, because he said that

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY; JUNE 20, 2005; 6:00 P. M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, B. T. DeLOACH BUILDING, HAMPTON, SC**

they could not get enough manpower. He stated that he had talked with Ms. Ruth Thomas, and they met on Sunday afternoon and he had standing room standing only. He stated that he had more people than you could shake a stick at. He stated that he told them what he needed for them to be fire fighters out there, and the next meeting, he had room enough for them to sit down, and the next meeting, they had even fewer. He stated that they are looking for about five (5) or six (6) people that would be local that would be willing to take the training and all. Mr. Rushing stated that finding out from ISO that they could lock in with Brunson, then this was the key to it, making Miley a sub station to Brunson. Mr. Rushing stated that if they did not establish it as a sub station to Brunson, they might get to a nine (9) which is a tremendous savings - the biggest savings that you are going to find. Chairman Parker stated that Council asked for this, and she would recommend that Council take this as information. **Moved** by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to take this further than information, consider putting a station out at Miley and bringing the cost back and making sure that we can find money for it. Council Member Ball stated that she has always been in favor of doing the Miley station, but she was not sure where the money was coming from. She stated that she felt that they needed to get down to the nuts and bolts as to how they were going to do this. Council Member Wilson stated that let's just make sure that we can find the money for the project. Mr. Rushing stated that he had two (2) of his board members back there. Council Member Ball asked the Administrator if the County had any way to fund this and does this include the fire truck, the building and all the equipment. Administrator Posey-Graham stated that part of the motion as she understood it was to go back and confirm all costs and identify a funding source. Administrator Posey-Graham stated that she would be happy to bring back this information if this was the wishes of Council to completely review all costs because these costs as Mr. Rushing mentioned was collected some time ago. She stated that this would be done so that the costs can be updated as well as identify possible funding sources for the project. Administrator Posey-Graham stated that she was not going to sit there and pretend that she could pull a rabbit out of a hat. She reminded Council that they sat through the same budget process that she did. Administrator Posey-Graham stated that she would review all information and bring back what is available. Chairman Parker asked Council Member Wilson if he would repeat his motion. Council Member Wilson stated that he wanted to say something while they were in discussion. He stated that Council sits there on one hand and gives away \$50,000 or \$60,000, and then Council turns around on the other side and say that we can't afford it. He stated that the County felt that they cannot afford it, because Council is not cognizant of its strength. Council Member Wilson stated that his motion was to go back and research and see what the cost is and see if the County can find funding and make this thing happen, not just put on paper, bring it back to the Council. Chairman Parker stated that it was a motion and a second to look into that with all aspects of making it a possibility as soon as the Administrator can bring it back to Council. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Parker thanked Mr. Rushing.

**REQUEST FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT TO PURCHASE A LAPTOP COMPUTER:**

Administrator Posey-Graham stated that she had a request from the fire department to purchase a laptop computer and software for the laptop. She stated that the department had an eight (8) year old laptop that was used to perform testing on the fire equipment, and the computer crashed. She stated that the cost to have this done outside would be more than \$5,000 (five thousand dollars). The cost to purchase a new computer is less than it is to repair it. She stated that it is eight years old, and she did not know of anyone who would recommend to the County that it be repaired. She stated the

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY; JUNE 20, 2005; 6:00 P. M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, B. T. DeLOACH BUILDING, HAMPTON, SC**

county is at a position that they needed to replace that laptop computer. The total cost presented for the computer, software and other equipment is \$3,900. She stated that the request is coming to council that these funds be taken from the general funds contingency account, because the funds are not available in the fire fund. She stated that this is the report, and she would be happy to answer any questions. Administrator Posey-Graham reiterated that the funds are available in contingency. **Moved** by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Ball, that the County purchase the laptop, software and other equipment in the amount of \$3,900 (three thousand nine hundred dollars) and the funds come from contingency. Motion carried.

**COMMENTS BY CHAIRMAN REGARDING PROCUREMENT POLICIES:**

Chairman Parker stated that before Council has the two (2) executive sessions, she had during the bidding process discussion. She stated that she had something that she had thought through. She stated that she would like to present it at this time. Chairman Parker stated that she knew that there was a lot of discussion about this bidding process and a lot of questions asked. Chairman Parker stated, "As outlined by the Hampton County Procurement Ordinance, the bidding process is designed to level the playing field for all companies interested in submitting a bid. She stated that this is what Council was talking about whether it is very large or smaller. She stated that the ranges in which we have to go through this process. She stated that some of the bids are much smaller. Our process, as in most counties', states' and federal procurement polices is designed to withstand public scrutiny, because it is designed to protect all bidders; the county government, who most importantly protects the taxpayers. All bidders receive the same written specifications prior to bidding. All bids are sealed and opened in the public. The total procedure is very exact and very guarded to allow fairness. If information is not provided or is not correct or does not meet the specifications laid out as the County has in the procurement ordinance, then it is termed, 'not qualified.'" Chairman Parker stated that the process is solid and very structured to allow fairness all across the board. She stated that this is the reason it is such a specific process that the County goes through. Chairman Parker stated that this was written with much thought as fairness for all. Chairman Parker stated that there was now a need for an executive session for a contractual matter. Council Member Wilson stated that he wanted to say something to what the Chairman just read. Chairman Parker stated that it was dealing with EMS. Council Member Wilson stated that he wanted to say something regarding what she read. He stated that he felt that it was a little out of character with what we just left at and knowing the things that he knows and that she knows about the appeals process. He stated that Council needs to be real careful in how you try to portray people as one thing when Council is doing something else. Chairman Parker stated that those were her feelings. Council Member Wilson stated that those were her feelings, now he wanted to express his feelings. Council Member Wilson stated that he listened to her feelings, and he was council member just like her. Council Member Wilson stated that the Chairman stated earlier that she had a vote just like he had, and he had a voice like she does. Council Member Wilson stated that he would like to express that if the Chairman did not mind. Chairman Parker stated that as long as it was on the procurement policy. Council Member Wilson stated that it was on the thing that she said just now - on your procurement thing. Council Member Wilson stated that the Council did not need to portray to the people what the Council is not doing. He stated that Council needs to do what they are portraying. People don't need to leave here with false ideas and false things in their minds. Council Member Wilson stated that the County's procurement policy is not what the Chairman portrayed it to be just now. He stated that the Council has a lot of work to get it to where you are talking about where it is at. He stated

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY; JUNE 20, 2005; 6:00 P. M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, B. T. DeLOACH BUILDING, HAMPTON, SC**

that some things are going to arise for the county's procurement policy to get there. Council Member Wilson stated that he felt that the Council is going to have to do a lot of work. He stated that the Chairman cannot sit there and say that it is fair when it is not. Council Member Wilson stated that this is all that he had to say.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Moved** by Council Member Ball, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to go into executive session to discuss a contractual matters regarding the economic development, sheriff's department and economic development. Motion carried. Session began 7:00 p. m. and ended 7:32 p. m. **Chairman Parker** opened the meeting back to open session. After coming out of executive session, Chairman Parker stated that she had to excuse herself from executive session, because one of the discussions was about something that could financially affect her household member. She asked Vice Chairman Wilson to please report. Vice Chairman Wilson stated that the following were discussed:

- Contractual matter (land issue) - Council discussed the matter regarding a land issue and asked the County Attorney to look into it.
- Contractual Matter (Space for Sheriff's Department and Economic Development) - Council discussed the possibility of relocating the sheriff's department and the commerce department (economic development). Council will look into the matter further and will have a recommendation at the next meeting.
- Contractual Matter (Space for Economic Development) - Council discussed the Administrator's evaluation.
- Economic Development - Council received an update, and there will be good news for a neighboring county.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved** by Council Member Johnson , seconded by Council Member Ball, to adjourn. Chairman Parker adjourned the meeting at 7:33 p. m.